The Eastern Iowa DXer

The Official Newsletter of the
Eastern Iowa DX Association

An affiliated club of the American Radio Relay League

October 2002 **Page 1**

Club Officers

President:	Heinz Blankenhagen, NRØX	**PacketCluster**	**WB8ZRL**
Vice President:	Rick Heinrich, NØYY	147.51, 144.91, 223.40, CRNETROM	
Secretary Treasurer:	George Carsner, WØPPF		
Repeater Committee:	Al Groff KØVM Joe Finkstein WØMJN	**Repeater:** 144.59/145.19	**NØDX/R**
Membership Committee:	Jim Spencer WØSR Tom Vavra WB8ZRL		

From the President

Heinz Blankenhagen, NRØX

The WØ DX Convention is now history. I understand it was a success and will probably become an annual event. I did not attend but several club members did. Tom, WB8ZRL, was one of those who did and he will describe the event elsewhere in the newsletter.

Jeff Davis, NØDY, will be contesting from Africa next month during the CW side of the CQWW contest. He is joining a group of Europeans in the Gambia. They will be using C53M during the contest and C56R outside of the contest. They expect to hit the airwaves on November 19 or 20. You can find complete information at their web site http://www.qsl.net/kudxc/c53m.

The Davenport ARC hamfest will take place Sunday, November 3rd, from 8 am until 2 pm. This event is returning to the Air National Guard Hanger at Mount Joy. We will have advance tickets for sale at our meeting. You save a dollar and get two chances for the prize drawings instead of only one when you buy your ticket at the gate. See George to buy your ticket.

The ARRL Midwest Division Convention will be in Lebanon, Missouri May 2, 2003. The banquet speaker is Riley Holingsworth. For complete info go to http://members.socket.net/~wb9m/Publish You can combine this with a visit to Branson, or visit Fort Leonard Wood where I took my basic training back in 1956. If I do any, I might even do all three.

Since this will be my last meeting as president, I would like to thank Vice President Rick Heinrich and Secretaries/Treasurers George Carsner and Tom Kueny for their services over the last two years. Thanks also to Terry and Shanna Cellman for doing the cooking at the club picnics and to Glenn Johnson, Lew Gordon, Cliff Ahrens, Dave Anderson and Glen Kesselring for their meeting presentations.

The program for the October meeting will be a presentation by Rod Blocksome and Tom Vinson, describing their adventure in

the Pacific, aboard the Research Vessel Davidson, looking for Amelia Earhart's airplane. I think this will be a very good one so don't miss it. See you there.

73
Heinz

The Editor's Corner

By Rick N0YY

Well they say time flies when you're having fun. The past two years have flown by in my role as VP and Editor. I have enjoyed every minute. I anticipate a change in our administration at the upcoming meeting since the October meeting represents voting in the new governing body. What is in store will be unveiled by the nominating committee shortly.

Having the opportunity to have worked with Heinz, Tom Kueny, and George Carsner has been great. All are committed and are part of the reason the club continues to flourish. But we have many unsung heroes that keep the club moving forward. WB8ZRL, WØSR, KØVM, WØMJN, and many others are responsible for keeping interest high and keeping the club moving forward.

And of course there are personal frustrations. I have not completed my effort to get a club website developed. Getting number one son delivered to college, continuing to travel on business, and a host of other commitments have challenged my own personal goals. I remain committed to get it done and make sure that it is of the quality appropriate for this fine club.

I anticipate handing the reins of the newsletter over to a new editor in October. Please help him or her by providing your comments and words of encouragement like you have done for me. As always this is your newsletter and can only be as good as the inputs from the membership.

And remember it is the start of the contest season. Participate, have fun, and then make sure that you send in your log. Let George know so that we can accumulate your participation for an EIDXA score.

Thanks again for a wonderful two years and I look forward to whatever the future brings.

73's
Rick

The W0DXCC Convention

By Tom WB8ZRL

The first WØDXCC Convention was held in Omaha on September 28th. K0PCG (Des Moines) and KKØDX (Omaha) were the driving forces behind the WØDXCC and made it happen. It was held in the Holiday Inn Convention Center in Omaha, which is a super facility.

There were 67 attendees from all states in zero land except North Dakota. DX clubs from Omaha, Denver, Kansas City, Twin Cities, and a club now being formed from around La Crosse WI in addition to EIDXA were represented.

EIDXA was represented by WØEJ, AKØM, KØJGH and WB8ZRL. ARRL was represented by N7NG (ARRL Communications Manager), WØEJ, KØQB (Dakota Div Director), KØBJ and KØCA. There were also two field checkers checking DXCC submissions. Since I did not receive my VP6DI card until the convention, I had them checked there. That cost me an additional $5. The rationale was that since the

headquarters staff was there (N7NG) they had to charge the additional $5. Wayne did not check any cards, but he was there.

There were presentations about A5, TI9M, AMSAT DXing, and log periodic yagis. WØGJ did the A5 presentation. Glenn always seems to tailor his shows so even though I have seen several of his presentations, this one had lots of new material. Of special interest was his upcoming operation from A5 in February 2003, where he said he will do lots of 40, 80 and 160 operating. AKØA did the TI9M presentation which seemed to have lots of obstacles for the team. KA1PM of Tennadyne Corporation talked in detail about their log periodic yagis. One was the grand prize for the convention. KØBLT spoke briefly about AO-40 and satellite DXing.

Burghardt Radio was there as a vendor and at one point the three guys were all busy taking orders and credit cards. They had a presentation advertised as a transceiver shoot-out. They had six transceivers: IC-756PROII; IC-775DSP; FT-1000D; FT-1000 Field; TS-870S & TS-950SDX. They were all connected through a box that provided 6 equal voltage signals from a single antenna. Someone had brought a trailer with a small foldover/crankup tower with a yagi that provided the antenna. With some difficulty they found signals that would stay there long enough to hear their signals through each radio. The audio characteristics of each speaker made the biggest difference to my ears. The potential was there to really compare them, but no one would make a decision based on that short demonstration.

WØUD and NP2N/WØ took a DX Survey and Opinion Poll similar to one the DXAC did a number of years ago, and then compared results. Even with the small sample the results were similar. Of interest, but not really surprising, the youngest attendee was 39.

At the banquet there was a DXCC countdown. Not everyone went to the banquet, so this was some subset of the 67 attendees. Only a handful had less than 300 countries (excuse me.... entities). Only five had more than 350. The winner was N7NG with 364.

The Kansas City club had there pileup tape there. The normal equipment (headphone amp) failed so they played the tape to the entire group through a speaker. This gave me a chance to hear the tape without actually sitting for the "exam." Veterans said that it was much more difficult without the headphones. While I am only sure of a handful of the calls I heard, it was not as daunting as I had expected. Wade had the third place score.

It was the general consensus that there will be another convention next year. Where was not determined, but the consensus was toward the middle of the call area. When was not decided either, but a few people commented that the 28th was on a contest (CQWW RTTY) weekend.

Tennadyne and Burghardt provided major prizes, and other support. Daily DX, QRZ DX, ARRL and CQ also provided prizes.

Strays

Arlo, WØLBK forwards that Barry Boothe W9UCW, has a new variation of his famous vertical. Unfortunately, the web location did not make it through. Talk to Arlo for more details.

Meeting Notice

The next meeting of the Eastern Iowa DX Association will be on Friday, October 18, 2002 at 7:30 in Room 219C Linn Hall on the Kirkwood Community College campus. Doors open at 6:30 pm for eyeball QSOs. Monitor 145.19 for directions if needed. See you there

Rick Heinrich NØYY
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